

Application No. 10/676,892
Amendment Dated May 8, 2006
Reply to Office action of February 8, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the office action dated February 8, 2006, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 2, 4-22, 24-36 and 58-60. Claims 37-57 were earlier withdrawn. In this response, claims 1, 3, 21, 23 and 58 have been amended, and claims 2 and 22 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 3-21 and 23-60 remain pending in the application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application by the Examiner in light of the amendments made to claims 1, 3, 21, 23 and 58, and following remarks.

Rejection under U. S.C. 112, paragraph 2

Claims 3 and 23 were rejected under U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner expressed concern that the term "melamine-type resin" was indefinite. The Applicants agree that the alternate term, "melamine resin", is more appropriate and have amended claims 3 and 23 accordingly. The Applicants thus request that the Examiner kindly withdraw the objection to claims 3 and 23.

Obvious Type Double Patenting

Claims 1-2, 4-20, 21-22, 24-36 and 58-60 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims of copending application number 10/819,524 (US 2005/0159543). The applicants acknowledge the provisional double patenting rejections. Because the rejections are provisional, the Applicants request that the Examiner hold the double patenting rejections in abeyance pending a finding of allowable subject matter in either the instant application or the copending application number 10/819,524.

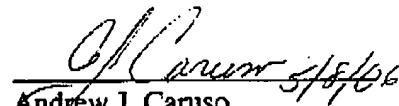
Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-2, 4-20, 58-60 were rejected under 35 U. S. C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over US Patent Application US 2001/0016626, Vollenberg et al. (hereinafter Vollenberg). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. Especially as amended, the claims of the instant invention recite patentable subject matter as Vollenberg neither discloses nor suggests the claimed invention.

Application No. 10/676,892
Amendment Dated May 8, 2006
Reply to Office action of February 8, 2006

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention defines allowable subject matter over the applied art. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested, and allowance of claims 1, 3-21, 23-36 and 58-60 is courteously solicited. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,


Andrew J. Caruso
Reg. No. 48, 520

General Electric Company
Building K1, Room 3A71
Niskayuna, New York 12309
May 8, 2006
Telephone: (518) 387-7354